In the Claims:

Please **amend** claim 1-28 as follows:

1. (Amended) A musical tone generation apparatus incorporating a music synthesizer and operators, comprising:

a readout for reading first function setting information from an extension board, wherein the extension board provides expansion of prescribed elements of musical tones by which new functions are to be executed in connection with the first setting information;

an incorporator for setting up the new functions based on the first function setting information in response to manual operations applied to the operators; and

a sender for sending second function setting information corresponding to the setup to allow the extension board to execute the new functions.

2. (Amended) A musical tone generation apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the prescribed elements correspond to tone colors of the musical tones, and the new functions correspond to sequencer functions by which the musical tones are reproduced with expanded tone colors in accordance with sound patterns respectively.

3. (Amended) A musical tone generation apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the prescribed elements correspond to tone colors of the musical tones, and the new functions correspond to sequencer functions by which the musical tones are sequentially reproduced with expanded tone colors in accordance with arpeggio patterns respectively.

4. (Amended) A musical tone generation apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising an I/O interface for interconnection with the extension board, so that the readout reads the first function setting information from the extension board by way of the I/O interface, and the sender sends the second function setting information to the extension board by way of the I/O interface.

5. (Amended) A musical tone generation apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the operators are manipulated in a process for setting the new functions with regard to the expansion of the prescribed elements of the musical tones by the extension board.

6. (Amended) A musical tone generation apparatus according to claim 2 wherein the extension board installs a plurality of expanded tone colors, each of which is selectively used for reproduction of the musical tones in accordance with the sound patterns respectively.

7. (Amended) A musical tone generation apparatus according to claim 3 wherein the extension board installs a plurality of expanded tone colors, each of which is selectively used for reproduction of the musical tones in accordance with the arpeggio patterns respectively.

8. (Amended) A musical tone generation apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the readout automatically reads the first function setting information from the extension board in a power-on event.

9. (Amended) An extension board installing a first tone generator, comprising:

an expander for expanding prescribed elements of musical tones being generated by the first tone generator; and

an executor for executing new functions on the first tone generator with regard to expansion of the prescribed elements of the musical tones.

10. (Amended) An extension board according to claim 9 wherein the expander corresponds to a second tone generator, which provides expanded tone colors different from original tone colors pre-installed in the first tone generator, so that the second tone generator generates musical tones with the expanded tone colors by the new functions in accordance with sound patterns respectively.

11. (Amended) An extension board according to claim 9 wherein the expander corresponds to a second tone generator, which provides expanded tone colors different from original tone colors pre-installed in the first tone generator, so that the second tone generator sequentially generates musical tones with the expanded tone colors by the new functions in accordance with arpeggio patterns respectively.

12. (Amended) An extension board according to claim 10 wherein the expander provides a plurality of the expanded tone colors, each of which is selectively used for reproduction of the musical tones in accordance with the sound patterns respectively.

13. (Amended) An extension board according to claim 11 wherein the expander provides a plurality of the expanded tone colors, each of which is selectively used for sequential reproduction of the musical tones in accordance with the arpeggio patterns respectively.

14. (Amended) An extension board according to claim 9 wherein the expander corresponds to an effector, which provides expanded effects being applied to musical tones generated by the first tone generator, and the executor corresponds to a sequencer that sequentially generated the musical tones with the expanded effects at timings that are shifted from original timings for generation of the musical tones.

15. (Amended) A musical tone generation system comprising:

a musical tone generation device incorporating a first music synthesizer that synthesizes first musical tones with a prescribed tone color in response to key-operation information; and

a tone color extension board installed in the musical tone generation device to provide expansion of the prescribed tone color,

wherein said tone color extension board comprises

a sequencer for reproducing sound patterns in response to the key-operation information that is supplied thereto from the musical tone generation device, and

a second music synthesizer that synthesizes second musical tones with expanded tone colors in accordance with the sound patterns respectively, so that the musical tone generation device produces mixture of the first musical tones and the second musical tones.

16. (Amended) A musical tone generation system according to claim 15 wherein the tone color extension board provides a plurality of the expanded tone colors, which differ from original tone colors pre-installed in the musical tone generation device and each of which is selectively used for reproduction of the sound patterns respectively.

17. (Amended) A musical tone generation system according to claim 15 further comprising an effector for imparting effects to the mixture of the first and second musical tones.

18. (Amended) A musical tone generation system comprising:

a musical tone generation device incorporating a first music synthesizer that synthesizes first musical tones with a prescribed tone color in response to key-operation information; and

a tone color extension board installed in the musical tone generation device to provide expansion of the prescribed tone color,

wherein said tone color extension board comprises

a sequencer for reproducing arpeggio patterns in response to the key-operation information that is supplied thereto from the musical tone generation device, and

a second music synthesizer for sequentially generating second musical tones with expanded tone colors in accordance with the arpeggio patterns respectively, so that the musical tone generation device produces mixture of the first musical tones and the second musical tones.

19. (Amended) A musical tone generation system according to claim 18 wherein the tone color extension board provides a plurality of the expanded tone colors, which differ from original tone colors pre-installed in the musical tone generation device and each of which is selectively used for reproduction of the arpeggio patterns respectively.

20. (Amended) A musical tone generation system according to claim 18 further comprising an effector for imparting effects to the mixture of the first and second musical tones.

21. (Amended) A musical tone generation method comprising the steps of:

reading first function setting information from an extension board, wherein the extension board provides expansion of prescribed elements of musical tones by which new functions are to be executed in connection with the first setting information;

setting up the new functions based on the first function setting information in response to manual operations applied to the operators; and

sending the second function setting information corresponding to the setup to allow the extension board to execute new functions.

22. (Amended) A function expanding method comprising the steps of:

installing by an extension board a first tone generator;

expanding prescribed elements of musical tones being generated by the first tone generator; and

executing new functions on the first tone generator with regard to expansion of the prescribed elements of the musical tones.

23. (Amended) A musical tone generation method applicable to a musical tone generation device installing a tone color extension board to provide expansion of a prescribed tone color, said musical tone generation method comprising the steps of:

activating a first music synthesizer of the musical tone generation device to synthesize first musical tones with the prescribed tone color in response to key-operation information;

reproducing sound patterns in response to the key-operation information that is supplied thereto from the musical tone generation device;

activating a second music synthesizer of the tone color extension board to synthesize second musical tones with expanded tone colors in accordance with the sound patterns respectively; and

mixing the first musical tones together with the second musical tones to produce mixed musical tones.

24. (Amended) A musical tone generation method applicable to a musical tone generation device installing a tone color extension board to provide expansion of a prescribed tone color, said musical tone generation method comprising the steps of:

activating a first music synthesizer of the musical tone generation device to synthesize first musical tones with the prescribed tone color in response to key-operation information;

reproducing arpeggio patterns in response to the key-operation information on the tone color extension board;

activating a second music synthesizer of the tone color extension board to sequentially generate second musical tones with expanded tone colors in accordance with the arpeggio patterns respectively; and

mixing the first musical tones together with the second musical tones to produce mixed musical tones.

25. (Amended) A machine-readable media storing programs and data that cause a musical tone generation device installing an extension board to perform a musical tone generation method comprising the steps of:

reading first function setting information from the extension board, wherein the extension board provides expansion of prescribed elements of musical tones by which new functions are to be executed in connection with the first setting information;

setting up the new functions based on the first function setting information in response to manual operations applied to the operators; and

sending the second function setting information corresponding to the setup to allow the extension board to excute new functions.

26. (Amended) A machine-readable media storing programs and data that cause an extension board installing a first tone generator to perform a function expanding method comprising the steps of:

expanding prescribed elements of musical tones being generated by the first tone generator; and

executing new functions on the first tone generator with regard to expansion of the prescribed elements of the musical tones.

27. (Amended) A machine-readable media storing programs and data that cause a musical tone generation device installing a tone color extension board to perform a musical tone generation method comprising the steps of:

activating a first music synthesizer of the musical tone generation device to synthesize first musical tones with a prescribed tone color in response to key-operation information;

reproducing sound patterns in response to the key-operation information that is supplied thereto from the musical tone generation device;

activating a second music synthesizer of the tone color extension board to synthesize second musical tones with expanded tone colors in accordance with the sound pattern respectively; and

mixing the first musical tones together with the second musical tones to produce mixed musical tones.

28. (Amended) A machine-readable media storing programs and data that cause a musical tone generation device installing a tone color extension board to perform a musical tone generation method comprising the steps of:

activating a first music synthesizer of the musical tone generation device to synthesize first musical tones with a prescribed tone color in response to key-operation information;

reproducing arpeggio patterns in response to the key-operation information on the tone color extension board;

activating a second music synthesizer of the tone color extension board to sequentially generate second musical tones with expanded tone colors in accordance with the arpeggio patterns respectively; and

mixing the first musical tones together with the second musical tones to produce mixed musical tones.